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Message Text

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44
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 AF-08

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /133 W
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R 011221Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1515
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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FODAG

GENEVA FOR GATT

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EPAP
SUBJ: FAO COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF COMMODITY AND TRADE PROBLEMS

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM 5, COMMODITY AND TRADE PROBLEMS, WAS PRIMARILY LIMITED TO EXPRESSION OF DIFFERING VIEWPOINTS ON RATE OF PROGRESS IN SOLVING COMMODITY PROBLEMS AND FAO/UNCTAD COO-OPERATION UNDER THE INTEGRATED PROGRAM. SIX LDC DELEGATIONS, PARTI-CULARLY PHILIPPINES AND CONGO, EXPRESSED DISATISFACTION AT THE FLOW PACE OF PROGRESS IN OTHER FORA WHILE PERU AND PANAMA LIMITED THEIR CRITICISM TO THE MTN NEGOTIATIONS. FIVE DC DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING THE U.S., TOOK EXCEPTION TO SUCH CRITICISM, NOTING THAT NEGOTIATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS WERE IN FACT UNDERWAY AND EXPRESSING DOUBT WHETHER IT WAS PROPER FOR FAO COUNCIL TO CRITICIZE OTHER BODIES AT THEIGPRESENT STAGE OF WORK. NEARLY ALL DELEGATIONS SPOKE OF NEED FOR CLOSE COLLABORATION BETWEEN FAO AND UNCTAD ON
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COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS UNDER THE INTEGRATED PROGRAM THOUGH MOST

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STOPPED SHORT OF IMPLICATION THAT CURRENT LEVEL OF COOPERATION IS INADEQUATE. GERMANY, HOWEVER, STATED THAT FAO INTERGOVERN-MENTAL COMMODITY GROUPS SHOULD BE INVOLVED TO A GREATER EXTENT, AND COUNCIL CHAIRMAN IN HIS ORAL SUMMARY NOTED THAT DISCUSSION HAD SUGGESTED INTENSIFICATION OF COOPERATION BETWEEN FAO AND UNCTAD. UNCTAD OBSERVER CLAIMED HIS ORGANIZATION AND FAO WERE WORKING "VIRTUALLY AS ONE TEAM".

2. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION, BRAZIL NOTED THAT FAO IS NOT INVITED TO GATT/MTN DISCUSSIONS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND COLOMBIA SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNCIL RECOMMEND THAT FAO BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE SUPPLY CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE FOR DELEGATION BEFORE MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 IN THE EVENT THAT THERE IS AN ATTEMPT TO INCORPORATE COLOMBIAN SUGGESTION IN THE FINAL COUNCIL REPORT.VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMODITIES, TRADE, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME19566
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760446-0747
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761283/aaaactqw.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAO COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF COMMODITY AND TRADE PROBLEMS
TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006